

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03  
TRSE-00 DHA-02 EUR-12 /073 W  
-----162331Z 060179 /14

R 161356Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2805  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR XF PLO  
SUBJ: PNC: MARCH 15

REF: CAIRO 4433

1. MORNING AND AFTERNOON PNC DEBATES MARCH 15 PRODUCED LITTLE OF  
SUBSTANCE, OTHER THAN APPARENT WILLINGNESS PFLP ACCEPT CONCEPT  
OF NATIONAL AUTHORITY (REFTEL). EVEN STATEMENT BY PFLP'S QUBA'  
HOWEVER, COULD NOT MASK FACT THAT PFLP CONTINUES AT ODDS WITH  
MAJORITY MOOD.

2. PFLP POSITION. JOURNALISTS AGREE THAT PFLP IS  
TAKING POSITION THAT WEST BANK/GAZA STATE ACCEPTABLE BUT NOT AT  
PRICE OF SACRIFICING ORIGINAL CHARTER AIMS. PFLP ALSO HAS PRACTICAL  
OBJECTION TO ACCEPTING MINI-STATE PRINCIPLE, ARGUING THAT PRESENT  
BALANCE OF POWER IN AREA GIVES PREDOMINANCE TO REACTIONARY GOVERN-  
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MENTS (I.E. , US).

3. REJECTIONIST TACTICS. ACCORDING PRO-WEST CAIRO DAILY AKHBAR,  
QUBA' HAS BEEN ADVOCATING CENSURE OF EGYPT, SYRIA AND JORDAN FOR  
CAPITULATIONISM. HE IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE INDUCED A STUDENT DELEGATE  
NAMED MAHMUD SA'D TO SPEAK AGAINST SYRIA'S "PUPPET REGIME", A TACTIC  
INTENDED TO PROVOKE SA'IQA (AND THUS DISRUPT CONFERENCE), AKHBAR

REPORTS WITH RELISH. ARAFAT HAD ALL THESE REMARKS STRIKEN OFF THE RECORD AND DELIVERED SEVERE LECTURE TO SA'D (CONFIRMED BY US JOURNALIST). AKHBAR SAYS THAT PFLP BASIC STRATEGY IS TO SEEK TIE PALESTINIAN ISSUES TO "OTHER INCIDENTS" IN ARAB WORLD SO AS TO DRAG PLO CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS INTO TAKING SIDES.

4. PLENARY DEBATE. DEBATE CONTINUED MARCH 16 ON EXCOMM REPORT (ARAFAT CLAIMS TEN COPIES HAVE BEEN LEAKED, NOT , UNFORTUNATELY, TO US). AMONG ISSUES REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED WAS RETURN OF ORIENTAL JEWS. ABU MAZIN (FATAH) ANNOUNCED THAT EGYPT, SYRIA, TUNISIA, MOROCCO, IRAQ AND SUDAN HAVE ALL EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR RETURN OF JEWS; "65 PERCENT" OF ISRAELI JEWS WERE "DECEIVED OR TEMPTED" INTO EMIGRATION FROM ARAB COUNTRIES.

5. COMMITTEES. MEMBERS STILL NOT ANNOUNCED, BUT SESSIONS EXPECTED TO GET UNDER WAY MARCH 17, POLITICAL COMMITTEE, ACCORDING AKHBAR, WILL DISCUSS, INTER ALIA, SARTAWI CONTACTS WITH ISRAELIS.

6. ATMOSPHERE. ARAFAT, BY ALL ACCOUNTS, VERY MUCH IN CHARGE. IN EVENINGS HE CLOSELY CONSULTING WITH HIS SA'IQA AND PDFLP COLLEAGUES. "CLOSED" SESSIONS ARE REMARKABLY OPEN, WITH "AUTHORIZED" JOURNALISTS, SUCH AS Wafa CORRESPONDENT, PERMITTED TO ENTER AT WILL. SO ARE SUCH LOCAL LEFTISTS AS LUFTI AL-KHULI AND KHALID MUHI AL-DIN.  
MATTHEWS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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